67

particle size range of fentanyl produced, as well as other numerical parameters described in the examples, and any combination thereof.

What is claimed is:

- 1. A sublingual formulation comprising from about 0.001% to about 15% by weight fentanyl, a free base, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, from about 20% to about 60% by weight ethanol, and from about 4% to about 6% by weight propylene glycol, the formulation providing a $_{10}$ mean $T_{\it max}$ of about 1.28+/–0.60 hours when a dose is administered sublingually to humans.
- 2. A sublingual formulation comprising from about 0.001% to about 15% by weight fentanyl, a free base, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, from about 50% to 15 about 60% by weight ethanol, and from about 4% to about 6% by weight propylene glycol, which provides a plasma concentration after administration to humans selected from the group consisting of: about 60% of the mean C_{max} in about 10 minutes, about 86% of the mean C_{max} by about 20 minutes and a combination thereof.

68

- 3. The sublingual formulation of claim 1, that when administered to humans provides a plasma concentration that is greater than about 80% of the mean C_{max} for about 2 hours.
- **4**. A sublingual spray formulation comprising 400 mcg dose of fentanyl, a free base, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, which provides one or more mean pharmacokinetic values selected from the group consisting of: AUC_{last} 4.863+/-1.70821 hr*ng/mL, AUC_{inf} 5.761+/-1.916 hr*ng/mL, and AUC_{extrap} 10.26+/-5.66%, when administered to humans.
- **5**. A sublingual spray formulation comprising a dose of fentanyl, a free base, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, which provides a substantially dose proportional mean AUC_{last} based on a mean AUC_{last} of about 4.863+/–1.70821 hr*ng/mL for a 400 mcg fentanyl dose when administered to humans.
- **6**. A sublingual spray formulation comprising a 400 mcg dose of fentanyl, a free base, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, which provides a mean F(AUC_{last}) of about 0.721+/-0.199 ng/mL when administered to humans.

* * * * *